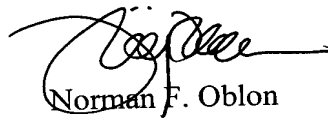


The claims have been amended to remove multiple dependencies. No new matter is believed to have been added to this application by these amendments.

Applicants submit that the present application is ready for examination on the merits. Early notice to this effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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